

1 Remarks

2 By a separate document, applicants hereby request a one-month extension allowing
3 applicants to respond on or before April 19, 2003, and transmit the necessary fee for that
4 extension herewith in the amount of \$55 for a small entity.

5 Claims 1-30 were presented for examination and are pending. Claims 29 and 30 are
6 withdrawn from consideration. Claims 1-25, 27 and 28 are rejected. Claim 26 is objected to.
7 Reconsideration is respectfully requested. New claims 31-33 are submitted herewith.

8 The Restriction Requirement:

9 The election without traverse to prosecute the invention of a conversion assembly
10 apparatus, claims 1-28, is hereby affirmed.

11 The 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) Rejections

12 Claims 1, 2, 13 and 20 are rejected as being anticipated by Chun et al. The rejection
13 is respectfully traversed.

14 In the reference, Figure 1 shows and column 1, lines 52-58 describe, electro-optic
15 components mounted onto a flexible circuit board. Applicants' claim 1 is amended to clarify
16 that the conversion assembly is mounted onto a substrate, not a flexible circuit board. The
17 rejection of claim 1 should therefore be withdrawn. The rejection of claims 2, 13 and 20 should
18 be withdrawn because they depend from claim 1.

19 A new independent claim is provided that recites a substrate that is non-flexible.

21 Claims 1 and 13-15 are rejected as being anticipated by Clayton. The rejection is
22 respectfully traversed.

23 Laminate circuit 50 in the reference does not provide mechanical isolation to
24 semiconductor device 54. The purpose of laminate circuit 50 is to provide electrical or optical
25 interconnection between individual electronic devices 54 and discrete components 56 or a

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1 group of stacked electronic devices 52 (refer to FIG. 12) mounted on the circuit 50, and to
2 conduct data signals and control voltages to and from the termination pads 34 or 34' on the
3 molded frame 12, see column 11, lines 1-7. The purpose of the flexible circuit in applicants'
4 invention is to provide mechanical isolation of the conversion assembly from vibrations,
5 stresses and strains that would misalign its delicate optics, see page 7, lines 13-17 and
6 throughout the application. Claim 1 has been amended to clarify that the purpose of the
7 flexible circuit is to provide mechanical isolation. Therefore the rejection should be withdrawn.
8 The rejection of claims 13-15 should be withdrawn since they depend from claim 1.

9 Claims 1 and 13 are rejected as being anticipated by Galloway. The rejection is
10 respectfully traversed.

11 Figure 5 of Galloway, as described in column 8, lines 17-21, shows photonic devices
12 111, 112 mounted onto flexible substrate/circuit 51. As discussed above, applicants' claim
13 1 has been amended to clarify that the conversion components are fixedly mounted onto the
14 substrate, not the flexible circuit. Therefore the rejection of claim 1 should be withdrawn. The
15 rejection of claim 13 should be withdrawn since it depends from claim 1.

16 The 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) Rejections

17 Claims 3 and 4 are rejected as being unpatentable over Chun et al. The rejection is
18 respectfully traversed.

19 Claim 1 should be allowable over the reference as discussed above. The rejection of

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21 should be withdrawn.

22 Claims 5-8 and 12 are rejected as being unpatentable over Chun et al. in view of Ueno
23 et al. The rejection is respectfully traversed.

24 Claim 1 should be allowable over the reference as discussed above. The rejection of
25 claims 5-8 and 12 should be withdrawn since they depend from claim 1. Therefore, the

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1 rejection should be withdrawn.

2 Claims 9 and 11 are rejected as being unpatentable over Chun et al. in view of Ueno
3 et al. and further in view of Turner. The rejection is respectfully traversed.

4 Claim 1 should be allowable over the reference as discussed above. The rejection of
5 claims 9 and 11 should be withdrawn since they depend from claim 1. Therefore, the rejection
6 should be withdrawn.

7 Claims 10 is rejected as being unpatentable over Chun et al. in view of Ueno et al. and
8 further in view of Perduijn et al. The rejection is respectfully traversed.

9 Claim 1 should be allowable over the reference as discussed above. The rejection of
10 claim 10 should be withdrawn since it depends from claim 1. Therefore the rejection should
11 be withdrawn.

12 Claims 15 and 16 are rejected as being unpatentable over Clayton in view of Kronz et
13 al. The rejection is respectfully traversed.

14 Claim 1 should be allowable over the reference as discussed above. The rejection of
15 claim 15 should be withdrawn since it depends from claim 1. Therefore the rejection should
16 be withdrawn.

17 Claims 17-19 are rejected as being unpatentable over Clayton. The rejection is
18 respectfully traversed.

19 Claim 1 should be allowable over the reference as discussed above. The rejection of
20 claims 17-19 should be withdrawn since they depend from claim 1. Therefore the rejection
21 should be withdrawn.

22 Claims 21-25 are rejected as being unpatentable over Chun et al. in view of Lin et al.
23 The rejection is respectfully traversed.

24 Claim 1 should be allowable over the reference as discussed above. The rejection of
25 claims 21-25 should be withdrawn since they depend from claim 1. Therefore the rejection
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1 should be withdrawn.

2 Claims 27 and 28 are rejected as being unpatentable over Galloway in view of Iguchi
3 et al. The rejection is respectfully traversed.

4 Claim 1 should be allowable over the reference as discussed above. The rejection of
5 claims 27 and 28 should be withdrawn since they depend from claim 1. Therefore the
6 rejection should be withdrawn.

7 New independent claim 31 is patentable for the same reasons as amended claim 1, and
8 new claims 32 and 33 are patentable based on the patentable subject matter of claim 31.

9 Allowable Subject Matter

10 It is noted that claim 26 would be allowable if rewritten to include all of the limitations
11 of the base claim and any intervening claims.

12 Conclusions

13 It is submitted that claims 1-28 and 31-33 in this application are in condition for
14 allowance in view of the amendments thereto and the foregoing comments.

15 If any impediments remain to prompt allowance of the case, please contact the
16 undersigned at 415-442-5810.

17 Respectfully submitted,

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